

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-03 SP-03

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 H-03 L-03

PA-04 PRS-01 AGR-20 IO-14 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

DRC-01 /145 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2350

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, FR

SUBJECT: GISCARD'S SEPTEMBER 14 EC SUMMIT "INFORMAL
DINNER"

REF: PARIS 21753

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: INITIAL PARIS PRESS REPORTS CONCERN-
ING SUBSTANCE OF "INFORMAL DINNER" HOSTED BY FRENCH
PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING SEPTEMBER 14 SUGGEST THAT
DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON STREAMLINING EC INSTITUTIONS, CAP,
AND ENERGY. PRESS REPORTS THAT DECISION FOR POSSIBLE EC
SUMMIT BEFORE END OF YEAR WILL COME AFTER UK ELECTIONS
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AND IF TOPICS ARE READY FOR DISCUSSION. GISCARD'S GUESTS

SEEMED PLEASED WITH LESS FORMAL FORMAT HE ADOPTED FOR HIS "DINNER/DISCUSSION." THERE ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE MEETINGS IN THIS STYLE. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESS REPORTS IN WAKE OF GISCARD'S SIX HOUR "MINI-SUMMIT" SUGGEST THAT KEY RESULT OF SEPTEMBER 14 DINNER WAS CONSENSUS AMONG LEADERS OF EC-NINE NATIONS THAT ROLE OF EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (PARTICULARLY IN FONMIN SESSION) SHOULD BE REINFORCED. PRESS ALSO SPECULATES THAT QUESTION OF VOTING PROCEDURES IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WAS DISCUSSED, ALTHOUGH UK REPORTEDLY OPPOSED ANY MOVE AWAY FROM UNANIMITY SYSTEM. SEVERAL REPORTS SAY THAT MEETING EXAMINED IDEA OF CREATING MOBILE "POLITICAL SECRETARIAT," DRAWING ON RESOURCES OF NINE CAPITALS, TO PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO EC PRESIDENCY. THE EC COMMISSION'S OPERATION WAS CRITICIZED BY FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND UK PRIME MINISTER WILSON.

3. CAP WAS REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED, WITH SCHMIDT TAKING LINE THAT UNILATERAL NATIONAL MEASURES AFFECTING AGRICULTURE (E.G., ENCOURAGING OVERPRODUCTION OF MILK AND BEEF) AND CONFLICTING WITH CAP SHOULD BE ABOLISHED AND ALL MEMBERS SHOULD RETURN TO CAP PROCEDURES.

4. SCHMIDT IS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE STRESSED NEED FOR EC TO PRESENT A UNITED FRONT TO THE OIL PRODUCER NATIONS, NOT TO CREATE A CONFRONTATION BUT TO AVOID A PROLIFERATION OF BILATERALISM. WILSON IS SAID TO HAVE REJECTED A COMMON EC FRONT ON ENERGY AND ALSO TO HAVE REJECTED A PROPOSAL FOR POOLING ENERGY RESOURCES IN AN EMERGENCY.

5. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF GIVING THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT A LARGER ROLE IN THE EC BUDGETARY PROCESS. IT WAS AGREED THAT NO DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN FOR A POSSIBLE EC SUMMIT UNTIL AFTER THE UK ELECTIONS, AND THEN ONLY IF ALL THE TOPICS ARE RIPE FOR DISCUSSION ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS.

6. THERE WAS NO COMMUNIQUE AFTER THE MEETING.

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7. THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE "DINNER/DISCUSSION" SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN WELCOMED BY ALL THE PARTICIPANTS. DANISH PM HARTLING WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT IN SIX HOURS OF "DINNER/DISCUSSION," THE EC LEADER GOT FURTHER THAN IN THREE DAYS AT THE 1973 COPENHAGEN SUMMIT. BELGIAN PREMIER TINDEMENS SAID, "IT WAS AN EXCELLENT EVENING AND A SUCCESS." DUTCH PREMIER DEN UYL SAID THAT FRENCH POLICY IN PARTICULAR NOW APPEARED "MORE OPEN" THAN THAT

OF PREVIOUS FRENCH GOVERNMENTS. SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE
EC LEADERS WOULD PROBABLY MEET INFORMALLY THREE OR FOUR
TIMES A YEAR FOR EXCHANGES OF VIEWS.
IRWIN

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